



3 November 2006



Veteran's Day Holiday "Safety"

1. The importance of Veteran's Day is to allow the Nation to pause and salute all those men and women who have served and continue to serve in the defense of America. Veteran's Day, first called Armistice Day, was conceived as a tribute to the Americans who sacrificed their lives in the war. Since 1954, we commemorate the service of all veterans who have served in uniform for any reason.
2. During this holiday and as we prepare for War Path III, let us take a moment to thank those who uphold the legacy of the veterans and reflect on the sacrifices of so many who have gone before us. May we also remember the legacy of veterans who fought for and sustained a fragile peace on this Korean peninsula.
3. Even though we may never be able to personally thank every veteran, Soldier, Airmen and their families, we must always support them. So, speaking on behalf of all those wearing the uniform, I am proud to say that we support all of you for your outstanding and selfless service to our Nation.
4. We must also remember that this is a time when many of our 2ID Soldiers, Airmen and civilians will travel in Korea and off the peninsula. I want to impress on you the need to keep safety at the forefront of your planning. Don't let preventable accidents and injuries spoil what should be an enjoyable time with family and friends. Strong emphasis should be placed on the following:
 - ☐ Composite Risk Management is to be used when planning on and off-duty activities.
 - ☐ "Under the Oak Tree Counseling" – Leaders know your Soldiers off-duty activities, the risks associated with those activities, and measures to mitigate those risks.
 - ☐ Changes in weather are now occurring. Dress appropriately for cold weather activities.
5. Leaders and sponsors must pay particular attention to the safety of newly arrived Soldiers. This may be their first long weekend in Korea and they will require special attention in areas such as understanding the Buddy System, the off-limits areas/establishments, and curfew hours. We are a "TEAM" - encourage the "buddy system" - Soldiers take care of Soldiers.

Answering The Nation's Call To Duty!


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6. To all our veterans, we have a simple, yet heartfelt message – Thank you for your service. Your commitment shall forever be in the hearts of our Nation. Have a safe and enjoyable Veterans Day holiday weekend. Lead our effort for a safe and accident free November 2006.


James A. Coggin
MG, USA
Commanding

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